

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA
NATIONAL LABOR RELATIONS BOARD
**CHARGE AGAINST LABOR ORGANIZATION
OR ITS AGENTS**

DO NOT WRITE IN THIS SPACE

Case

02-CB-228040

Date Filed

9/25/18

INSTRUCTIONS: File an original with NLRB Regional Director for the region in which the alleged unfair labor practice occurred or is occurring.

1. LABOR ORGANIZATION OR ITS AGENTS AGAINST WHICH CHARGE IS BROUGHT

a. Name United Service Workers Union, IUJAT, Local 355		b. Union Representative to contact Lori Ann Ames, President	
c. Address (Street, city, state, and ZIP code) 138-50 Queens Blvd Briarwood, NY 11435		d. Tel. No. 718-658-4848	e. Cell No.
		f. Fax No. 718-526-2879	
		g. e-mail	
h. The above-named labor organization has engaged in and is engaging in unfair labor practices within the meaning of section 8(b), subsections (1) and (list subsections) (A) of the National Labor Relations Act, and these unfair labor practices are practices affecting commerce within the meaning of the Act, or these unfair labor practices affecting commerce within the meaning of the Act and the Postal Reorganization Act.			

2. Basis of the Charge (set forth a clear and concise statement of the facts constituting the alleged unfair labor practices)

Since in or around mid-(b) (6), (b) (7)(C) 2018, the above-named labor organization restrained and coerced member (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) in the exercise of (b) (6) Section 7 rights by refusing to process or refusing to further process (b) (6) grievance regarding (b) (6) incorrect seniority date and (b) (6) route assignment issues, for reasons that are arbitrary, discriminatory, or otherwise unlawful.

Work Location: Harlem (Manhattan)

3. Name of Employer First Step Transportation	4a. Tel. No. 347-492-3200	b. Cell No.	c. Fax No.
		d. e-mail	
5. Location of plant involved (street, city, state and ZIP code) 2859 W. 37th Street Brooklyn, NY 11224		6. Employer representative to contact Angel Laraquente, Manager	
7. Type of establishment (factory, mine, wholesaler, etc.) school bus company	8. Identify principal product or service transportation of students		9. Number of workers employed 20+

10. Full name of party filing charge

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

11. Address of party filing charge (street, city, state and ZIP code)

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

11a. Tel. No.

b. Cell No.

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

d. e-mail

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

12. DECLARATION

I declare that I have read the above charge and that the statements
(b) (6), (b) (7)(C) and belief.

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

(type name and title or office, if any)

same as above

Tel. No.

Cell No.

same as above

Fax No.

e-mail

Address

Date 9/25/18

WILLFUL FALSE STATEMENTS ON THIS CHARGE CAN BE PUNISHED BY FINE AND IMPRISONMENT (U.S. CODE, TITLE 18, SECTION 1001)
PRIVACY ACT STATEMENT

Solicitation of the information on this form is authorized by the National Labor Relations Act (NLRA), 29 U.S.C. § 151 et seq. The principal use of the information is to assist the National Labor Relations Board (NLRB) in processing unfair labor practice and related proceedings or litigation. The routine uses for the information are fully set forth in the Federal Register, 71 Fed. Reg. 74942-43 (Dec. 13, 2006). The NLRB will further explain these uses upon request. Disclosure of this information to the NLRB is voluntary; however, failure to supply the information may cause the NLRB to decline to invoke its processes.



UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT
NATIONAL LABOR RELATIONS BOARD

REGION 2
26 Federal Plz Ste 3614
New York, NY 10278-3699

Agency Website: www.nlr.gov
Telephone: (212)264-0300
Fax: (212)264-2450



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September 26, 2018

LORI Ann AMES, President
UNITED SERVICE WORKERS UNION, LOCAL 355 IUJAT
138-50 Queens Blvd.
Briarwood, NY 11435

Re: United Service Workers Union, Local 355
(First Step Transportation)
Case 02-CB-228040

Dear Ms AMES:

Enclosed is a copy of a charge that has been filed in this case. This letter tells you how to contact the Board agent who will be investigating the charge, explains your right to be represented, discusses presenting your evidence, and provides a brief explanation of our procedures, including how to submit documents to the NLRB.

Investigator: This charge is being investigated by Senior Field Attorney SUSANNAH Z. RINGEL whose telephone number is (212)776-8639. If this Board agent is not available, you may contact Supervisory Attorney SUZANNE SULLIVAN whose telephone number is (212)776-8646.

Right to Representation: You have the right to be represented by an attorney or other representative in any proceeding before us. If you choose to be represented, your representative must notify us in writing of this fact as soon as possible by completing Form NLRB-4701, Notice of Appearance. This form is available on our website, www.nlr.gov, or from an NLRB office upon your request.

If you are contacted by someone about representing you in this case, please be assured that no organization or person seeking your business has any "inside knowledge" or favored relationship with the National Labor Relations Board. Their knowledge regarding this proceeding was only obtained through access to information that must be made available to any member of the public under the Freedom of Information Act.

Presentation of Your Evidence: We seek prompt resolutions of labor disputes. Therefore, I urge you or your representative to submit a complete written account of the facts and a statement of your position with respect to the allegations set forth in the charge as soon as possible. If the Board agent later asks for more evidence, I strongly urge you or your representative to cooperate fully by promptly presenting all evidence relevant to the investigation. In this way, the case can be fully investigated more quickly.

Full and complete cooperation includes providing witnesses to give sworn affidavits to a Board agent, and providing all relevant documentary evidence requested by the Board agent. Sending us your written account of the facts and a statement of your position is not enough to be considered full and complete cooperation. A refusal to fully cooperate during the investigation might cause a case to be litigated unnecessarily.

We will not honor any request to place limitations on our use of position statements or evidence beyond those prescribed by the Freedom of Information Act and the Federal Records Act. Thus, we will not honor any claim of confidentiality except as provided by Exemption 4 of FOIA, 5 U.S.C. Sec. 552(b)(4), and any material you submit may be introduced as evidence at any hearing before an administrative law judge. We are also required by the Federal Records Act to keep copies of documents gathered in our investigation for some years after a case closes. Further, the Freedom of Information Act may require that we disclose such records in closed cases upon request, unless there is an applicable exemption. Examples of those exemptions are those that protect confidential financial information or personal privacy interests.

Procedures: We strongly urge everyone to submit all documents and other materials by E-Filing (not e-mailing) through our website, www.nlr.gov. However, the Agency will continue to accept timely filed paper documents. Please include the case name and number indicated above on all your correspondence regarding the charge.

Information about the Agency, the procedures we follow in unfair labor practice cases and our customer service standards is available on our website, www.nlr.gov or from an NLRB office upon your request. NLRB Form 4541 offers information that is helpful to parties involved in an investigation of an unfair labor practice charge.

We can provide assistance for persons with limited English proficiency or disability. Please let us know if you or any of your witnesses would like such assistance.

Very truly yours,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "John J. Walsh, Jr.", written in dark ink.

JOHN J. WALSH, JR.
Regional Director

Enclosure: Copy of Charge

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA
BEFORE THE NATIONAL LABOR RELATIONS BOARD

**UNITED SERVICE WORKERS UNION, LOCAL
355 (FIRST STEP TRANSPORTATION)**

Charged Party

and

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

Charging Party

Case 02-CB-228040

AFFIDAVIT OF SERVICE OF CHARGE AGAINST LABOR ORGANIZATION

I, the undersigned employee of the National Labor Relations Board, state under oath that on September 26, 2018, I served the above-entitled document(s) by post-paid regular mail upon the following persons, addressed to them at the following addresses:

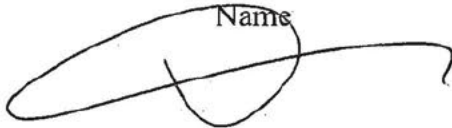
LORI Ann AMES, President
UNITED SERVICE WORKERS UNION,
LOCAL 355 IUJAT
138-50 Queens Blvd.
Briarwood, NY 11435

September 26, 2018

Date

D. Mahr, Designated Agent of NLRB

Name



Signature



UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT
NATIONAL LABOR RELATIONS BOARD

REGION 2
26 Federal Plz Ste 3614
New York, NY 10278-3699

Agency Website: www.nlr.gov
Telephone: (212)264-0300
Fax: (212)264-2450



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September 26, 2018

Angel Laraquente, Manager
First Step Transportation
2859 W 37th St
Brooklyn, NY 11224-1516

Re: United Service Workers Union, Local 355
(First Step Transportation)
Case 02-CB-228040

Dear Ms Laraquente:

Enclosed is a copy of a charge that has been filed in this case. Although this charge is not filed against you, it is necessary for us to obtain information from you to determine whether we have jurisdiction over this case. In the future we may also need to obtain evidence from you concerning the merits of the charge. This letter tells you how to contact the Board agent who will be investigating the charge, explains your right to be represented, discusses presenting your evidence, and provides a brief explanation of our procedures, including how to submit documents to the NLRB.

Investigator: This charge is being investigated by Senior Field Attorney SUSANNAH Z. RINGEL whose telephone number is (212)776-8639. If this Board agent is not available, you may contact Supervisory Attorney SUZANNE SULLIVAN whose telephone number is (212)776-8646.

Right to Representation: You have the right to be represented by an attorney or other representative in any proceeding before us. If you choose to be represented, your representative must notify us in writing of this fact as soon as possible by completing *Form NLRB-4701, Notice of Appearance*. This form is available on our website, www.nlr.gov, or from an NLRB office upon your request.

If you are contacted by someone about representing you in this case, please be assured that no organization or person seeking your business has any "inside knowledge" or favored relationship with the National Labor Relations Board. Their knowledge regarding this proceeding was only obtained through access to information that must be made available to any member of the public under the Freedom of Information Act.

Presentation of Your Evidence: We seek prompt resolutions of labor disputes. Therefore, I urge you or your representative to submit the enclosed Commerce Questionnaire to enable us to determine whether the NLRB has jurisdiction over this dispute. If you recently submitted this information in another case, or if you need assistance completing the form, please contact the Board agent.

If, during the investigation of this matter, the Board agent asks for evidence, I strongly urge you or your representative to promptly present all evidence relevant to the investigation. In this way, the case may be fully investigated more quickly.

We will not honor any request to place limitations on our use of position statements or evidence beyond those prescribed by the Freedom of Information Act and the Federal Records Act. Thus, we will not honor any claim of confidentiality except as provided by Exemption 4 of FOIA, 5 U.S.C. Sec. 552(b)(4), and any material you submit may be introduced as evidence at a hearing before an administrative law judge. We are also required by the Federal Records Act to keep copies of documents gathered in our investigation for some years after a case closes. Further, the Freedom of Information Act may require that we disclose such records in closed cases upon request, unless there is an applicable exemption. Examples of those exemptions are those that protect confidential financial information or personal privacy interests.

Preservation of all Potential Evidence: Please be mindful of your obligation to preserve all relevant documents and electronically stored information (ESI) in this case, and to take all steps necessary to avoid the inadvertent loss of information in your possession, custody or control. Relevant information includes, but is not limited to, paper documents and all ESI (e.g. SMS text messages, electronic documents, emails, and any data created by proprietary software tools) related to the above-captioned case.


Prohibition on Recording Affidavit Interviews: It is the policy of the General Counsel to prohibit affiants from recording the interview conducted by Board agents when subscribing Agency affidavits. Such recordings may impede the Agency's ability to safeguard the confidentiality of the affidavit itself, protect the privacy of the affiant and potentially compromise the integrity of the Region's investigation.

Procedures: We strongly urge everyone to submit all documents and other materials by E-Filing (not e-mailing) through our website, www.nlrb.gov. However, the Agency will continue to accept timely filed paper documents. Please include the case name and number indicated above on all your correspondence regarding the charge. The Agency requests all evidence submitted electronically to be in the form it is normally used and maintained in the course of business (i.e., native format). Where evidence submitted electronically is not in native format, it should be submitted in a manner that retains the essential functionality of the native format (i.e., in a machine-readable and searchable electronic format). If you have questions about the submission of evidence or expect to deliver a large quantity of electronic records, please promptly contact the Board agent investigating the charge.

Information about the Agency, the procedures we follow in unfair labor practice cases and our customer service standards is available on our website, www.nlrb.gov or from an NLRB office upon your request. *NLRB Form 4541, Investigative Procedures* offers information that is helpful to parties involved in an investigation of an unfair labor practice charge.

We can provide assistance for persons with limited English proficiency or disability. Please let us know if you or any of your witnesses would like such assistance.

Very truly yours,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "John J. Walsh, Jr.", written in a cursive style.

JOHN J. WALSH, JR.
Regional Director

Enclosures

1. Copy of Charge
2. Commerce Questionnaire

QUESTIONNAIRE ON COMMERCE INFORMATION

Please read carefully, answer all applicable items, and return to the NLRB Office. If additional space is required, please add a page and identify item number.

CASE NAME

CASE NUMBER

02-CB-228040

1. EXACT LEGAL TITLE OF ENTITY (As filed with State and/or stated in legal documents forming entity)**2. TYPE OF ENTITY**☐ CORPORATION ☐ LLC ☐ LLP ☐ PARTNERSHIP ☐ SOLE PROPRIETORSHIP ☐ OTHER (Specify)**3. IF A CORPORATION or LLC**A. STATE OF INCORPORATION
OR FORMATION

B. NAME, ADDRESS, AND RELATIONSHIP (e.g. parent, subsidiary) OF ALL RELATED ENTITIES

4. IF AN LLC OR ANY TYPE OF PARTNERSHIP, FULL NAME AND ADDRESS OF ALL MEMBERS OR PARTNERS**5. IF A SOLE PROPRIETORSHIP, FULL NAME AND ADDRESS OF PROPRIETOR****6. BRIEFLY DESCRIBE THE NATURE OF YOUR OPERATIONS (Products handled or manufactured, or nature of services performed).****7. A. PRINCIPAL LOCATION:****B. BRANCH LOCATIONS:****8. NUMBER OF PEOPLE PRESENTLY EMPLOYED**

A. Total:

B. At the address involved in this matter:

9. DURING THE MOST RECENT (Check appropriate box): ☐ CALENDAR YR ☐ 12 MONTHS or ☐ FISCAL YR (FY dates)

YES NO

A. Did you **provide services** valued in excess of \$50,000 directly to customers outside your State? If no, indicate actual value.
\$B. If you answered no to 9A, did you **provide services** valued in excess of \$50,000 to customers in your State who purchased goods valued in excess of \$50,000 from directly outside your State? If no, indicate the value of any such services you provided.
\$C. If you answered no to 9A and 9B, did you **provide services** valued in excess of \$50,000 to public utilities, transit systems, newspapers, health care institutions, broadcasting stations, commercial buildings, educational institutions, or retail concerns? If less than \$50,000, indicate amount. \$D. Did you **sell goods** valued in excess of \$50,000 directly to customers located outside your State? If less than \$50,000, indicate amount. \$E. If you answered no to 9D, did you **sell goods** valued in excess of \$50,000 directly to customers located inside your State who purchased other goods valued in excess of \$50,000 from directly outside your State? If less than \$50,000, indicate amount.
\$F. Did you **purchase and receive goods** valued in excess of \$50,000 from directly outside your State? If less than \$50,000, indicate amount. \$G. Did you **purchase and receive goods** valued in excess of \$50,000 from enterprises who received the goods directly from points outside your State? If less than \$50,000, indicate amount. \$H. **Gross Revenues** from all sales or performance of services (Check the largest amount)
☐ \$100,000 ☐ \$250,000 ☐ \$500,000 ☐ \$1,000,000 or more If less than \$100,000, indicate amount.I. Did you **begin operations within the last 12 months**? If yes, specify date: _____**10 ARE YOU A MEMBER OF AN ASSOCIATION OR OTHER EMPLOYER GROUP THAT ENGAGES IN COLLECTIVE BARGAINING?**☐ YES ☐ NO (If yes, name and address of association or group).**11. REPRESENTATIVE BEST QUALIFIED TO GIVE FURTHER INFORMATION ABOUT YOUR OPERATIONS**

NAME

TITLE

E-MAIL ADDRESS

TEL. NUMBER

12. AUTHORIZED REPRESENTATIVE COMPLETING THIS QUESTIONNAIRE

NAME AND TITLE (Type or Print)

SIGNATURE

E-MAIL ADDRESS

DATE

PRIVACY ACT STATEMENT

Solicitation of the information on this form is authorized by the National Labor Relations Act (NLRA), 29 U.S.C. § 151 et seq. The principal use of the information is to assist the National Labor Relations Board (NLRB) in processing representation and/or unfair labor practice proceedings and related proceedings or litigation. The routine uses for the information are fully set forth in the Federal Register, 71 Fed. Reg. 74942-43 (Dec. 13, 2006). The NLRB will further explain these uses upon request. Disclosure of this information to the NLRB is voluntary. However, failure to supply the information may cause the NLRB to refuse to process any further a representation or unfair labor practice case, or may cause the NLRB to issue you a subpoena and seek enforcement of the subpoena in federal court.



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September 26, 2018

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

Re: United Service Workers Union, Local 355
(First Step Transportation)
Case 02-CB-228040

Dear (b) (6), (b) (7)(C):

The charge that you filed in this case on September 25, 2018 has been docketed as case number 02-CB-228040. This letter tells you how to contact the Board agent who will be investigating the charge, explains your right to be represented, discusses presenting your evidence, and provides a brief explanation of our procedures, including how to submit documents to the NLRB.

Investigator: This charge is being investigated by Senior Field Attorney SUSANNAH Z. RINGEL whose telephone number is (212)776-8639. If this Board agent is not available, you may contact Supervisory Attorney SUZANNE SULLIVAN whose telephone number is (212)776-8646.

Right to Representation: You have the right to be represented by an attorney or other representative in any proceeding before us. If you choose to be represented, your representative must notify us in writing of this fact as soon as possible by completing *Form NLRB-4701, Notice of Appearance*. This form is available on our website, www.nlr.gov, or from an NLRB office upon your request.

If you are contacted by someone about representing you in this case, please be assured that no organization or person seeking your business has any "inside knowledge" or favored relationship with the National Labor Relations Board. Their knowledge regarding this proceeding was only obtained through access to information that must be made available to any member of the public under the Freedom of Information Act.

Presentation of Your Evidence: As the party who filed the charge in this case, it is your responsibility to meet with the Board agent to provide a sworn affidavit, or provide other witnesses to provide sworn affidavits, and to provide relevant documents within your possession. Because we seek to resolve labor disputes promptly, you should be ready to promptly present your affidavit(s) and other evidence. If you have not yet scheduled a date and time for the Board agent to take your affidavit, please contact the Board agent to schedule the affidavit(s). If you fail to cooperate in promptly presenting your evidence, your charge may be dismissed without investigation.

Preservation of all Potential Evidence: Please be mindful of your obligation to preserve all relevant documents and electronically stored information (ESI) in this case, and to take all steps necessary to avoid the inadvertent loss of information in your possession, custody or control. Relevant information includes, but is not limited to, paper documents and all ESI (e.g. SMS text messages, electronic documents, emails, and any data created by proprietary software tools) related to the above-captioned case.

Prohibition on Recording Affidavit Interviews: It is the policy of the General Counsel to prohibit affiants from recording the interview conducted by Board agents when subscribing Agency affidavits. Such recordings may impede the Agency's ability to safeguard the confidentiality of the affidavit itself, protect the privacy of the affiant and potentially compromise the integrity of the Region's investigation.

Procedures: We strongly urge everyone to submit all documents and other materials by E-Filing (not e-mailing) through our website, www.nlr.gov. However, the Agency will continue to accept timely filed paper documents. Please include the case name and number indicated above on all your correspondence regarding the charge. The Agency requests all evidence submitted electronically to be in the form it is normally used and maintained in the course of business (i.e., native format). Where evidence submitted electronically is not in native format, it should be submitted in a manner that retains the essential functionality of the native format (i.e., in a machine-readable and searchable electronic format). If you have questions about the submission of evidence or expect to deliver a large quantity of electronic records, please promptly contact the Board agent investigating the charge.

Information about the Agency, the procedures we follow in unfair labor practice cases and our customer service standards is available on our website, www.nlr.gov or from an NLRB office upon your request. *NLRB Form 4541, Investigative Procedures* offers information that is helpful to parties involved in an investigation of an unfair labor practice charge.

We can provide assistance for persons with limited English proficiency or disability. Please let us know if you or any of your witnesses would like such assistance.

Very truly yours,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "John J. Walsh, Jr.", written in a cursive style.

JOHN J. WALSH, JR.
Regional Director

NATIONAL LABOR RELATIONS BOARD
NOTICE OF APPEARANCE

_____X

Case# 02-CB-228040

FIRST STEP TRANSPORTATION

((b) (6), (b) (7)(C))

_____X

TO: (CHECK ONE BOX ONLY)

☒ REGIONAL DIRECTOR

☐ EXECUTIVE SECRETARY

NATIONAL LABOR RELATIONS BOARD
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20570

☐ GENERAL COUNSEL

NATIONAL LABOR RELATIONS BOARD
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20570

THE UNDERSIGNED HEREBY ENTERS APPEARANCE AS A REPRESENTATIVE OF
UNITED SERVICE WORKERS UNION LOCAL 355, IUJAT

IN THE ABOVE CAPTIONED MATTER.

SIGNATURE OF REPRESENTATIVE (PLEASE SIGN IN INK) <i>s/ Gary P. Rothman</i>	REPRESENTATIVE'S NAME, ADDRESS, ZIP CODE (PRINT OR TYPE) Gary P. Rothman, Esq. ROTHMAN ROCCO LARUFFA, LLP 3 West Main Street - Suite 200 Elmsford, New York 10523 Ph: (914) 478-2801 Fax: (914) 478-2913 Email: grothman@rothmanrocco.com
DATE September 28, 2018	AREA CODE TELEPHONE NUMBER (914) 478-2801

IF CASE IS PENDING IN WASHINGTON AND NOTICE OF APPEARANCE IS SENT TO THE GENERAL COUNSEL OR THE EXECUTIVE SECRETARY A COPY SHOULD BE SENT TO THE REGIONAL DIRECTOR OF THE REGION IN WHICH THE CASE WAS FILED SO THAT THOSE RECORDS WILL REFLECT THE APPEARANCE.



UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT
NATIONAL LABOR RELATIONS BOARD

REGION 02
26 Federal Plz Ste 3614
New York, NY 10278-3699

Agency Website: www.nlrb.gov
Telephone: (212)264-0300
Fax: (212)264-2450

December 6, 2018

Gary Rothman, Esq.
Rothman Rocco Laruffa, LLP
3 West Main Street - Suite 200
Elmsford, NY 10523

Re: United Service Workers Union, Local 355
(First Step Transportation)
Case No. 02-CB-228040

Dear Mr. Rothman:

This is to advise you that I have approved the withdrawal of the charge in the above matter.

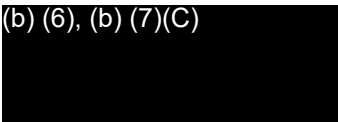
Very truly yours,

John J. Walsh, Jr.

JOHN J. WALSH, JR.
Regional Director

cc: Lori Ann Ames, President
United Service Workers Union,
Local 355 IUJAT
138-50 Queens Blvd.
Briarwood, NY 11435

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)



Angel Laraquente, Manager
First Step Transportation
2859 W 37th St
Brooklyn, NY 11224-1516